



Department of Justice

**Timothy M. Morrison, Acting United States Attorney
Southern District of Indiana**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, April 18, 2008

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ins/>

CONTACT: MARY BIPPUS

(317) 229-2403

Fax: (317) 226-5002

Cell: (317) 590-7928

**JEANNE HAHN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JENNINGS COUNTY COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
RECEIVES U.S. ATTORNEY'S AWARD FOR
OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO RIGHTS OF VICTIMS**

PRESS RELEASE

In honor of National Crime Victim's Rights Week, which is April 13-19, Timothy M. Morrison, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, today recognized the work of Jeanne Hahn, Executive Director of the Jennings County Council on Domestic Violence, as a 2008 recipient of the United States Attorney's Carol S. Morris Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Rights of Victims.

This is a special award given annually by the United States Attorney's Office to honor individuals whose commitment and effort impacts the lives of crime victims in the Southern District of Indiana. It reflects the nation's heightened awareness of the devastating impact of crime and violence on its victims, while underscoring the importance of helping victims heal and rebuild their lives.

Ms. Hahn took over at the Jennings County Council on Domestic Violence at a time when the agency was facing major funding challenges. Through her leadership, wisdom, vision and tireless efforts, Ms. Hahn brought the agency from near extinction to becoming a vibrant voice for victims of domestic and sexual violence in Jennings County. She worked with the Board of Directors to create and implement policy and procedure changes that enhanced the community's confidence in the Council's ability to meet the needs of victims.

In the past year, Mr. Hahn and one other paid employee have provided direct service and referrals to over 450 victims. Ms. Hahn worked to open lines of communication with each county entity that touched the life of victims to ensure that safety and justice were the goals for

each individual. Her vision of a community that offers peace and safety has provided victims and service providers with greater hope for future generations.

The U.S. Attorney's Award was established in the Southern District of Indiana in 1991 to recognize those persons who have made significant contributions in the lives of crime victims. National Crime Victim's Rights Week is a time for all Americans to learn about victimization, reflect on the cost of crime to our society, and promote laws, policies, and programs to help victims of crime recover. This week's theme, "Justice for Victims. Justice for All," envisions a strengthened national commitment to the nearly 24 million Americans harmed by crime each year.

During the past three decades, the United States has made dramatic progress in securing rights, protections, and services for victims of crime. Every state has enacted victims' rights laws; law enforcement agencies give victims greater protection; and more than 10,000 victim assistance programs have been established throughout the country.

###

20080418 Victim-Witness Hahn.wpd

